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## February 21, 2007 MCA-MDT Technical Committee Meeting

Glen Frost opened the meeting with introductions. MCA pointed out the anti-trust policy on page two of the meeting notice, and reminded members to read and abide by the policy.

### **MDT NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Summary of Specification Revisions.** MDT advised that numerous proposed revisions were in the process and no new revisions were sent out for comment. Written Comments can be submitted until the end of March.

**2. Facilities/Building Construction.** Buy America and other considerations were discussed. MDT asked that MCA keep their building Contractors involved in discussions and specification issues for these types of projects (Rest areas, Weigh Stations etc.). MDT had sent a copy of a memo dealing with **Material Certifications** from Loran Frazier dated February 13, 2007. It was asked that this memo be sent to all MCA Divisions

- Building Division
- Highway Division
- Concrete Division
- Municipal/Utility Division
- Associate/Affiliate members (suppliers, etc.)

**3. Bridge Deck Sealing, 28-day Requirement.** MDT is looking at the possibility of opening bridges to traffic prior to sealing (sealing one lane at a time etc.) or exempting some bridges from the sealing requirement. More information will be coming out in the future.

### **NEW BUSINESS FROM MCA**

**1. Mobilization.** The special provision placing a cap on the percent that can be bid for mobilization is on hold and was removed from the Transportation Commission agenda. MCA stated that numerous places in the specifications require that work be included in the cost of other items and mobilization is the logical place for these. MDT requires the vast majority of these items to be included in the related bid item (for example: tack coat is incidental to the plant mix surfacing). The specification lists what items can be included in mobilization and these other incidental items should be placed in the **related** bid item. The mobilization supplementals were sent to Contract Plans and will be effective with the March letting (final versions are on the internet).

**2. Substructure.** MCA asked if the definition of substructure could be clarified in the specifications. Based on the situation discussed MDT thought a clarification was unnecessary and stated that a request for a change to the specification should be submitted following the Specification Revision Policy.

**3. Spec Distribution Process.** MCA stated that the internet page had not been updated. MDT is working on the web page to keep it updated but reminded MCA that every proposed revision is sent to MCA with a request that they be forwarded to all members and it appeared there may be a problem with MCA's distribution process if members are not receiving them.

**4. DEQ Violations.** MCA members have received violation letters and been fined months after violations occur, and asked why DEQ employees noting violations do not discuss these

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on-site at the time of occurrence in an attempt to alleviate problems early. MDT is working with DEQ (and other agencies with enforcement power) to work closer as a team to prevent and alleviate problems.

**5. Contractor's List.** MCA asked if the list of Contractor's would always be available to those who call and request it. MDT is looking into this, as it appears there may have been some confusion internally at MDT.

**6. Asphalt Adjustment.** MCA asked if this provision could be made optional or possibly dropped. MDT requested written comments addressing the concerns.

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Lane Rental.** MDT briefly discussed Lane Rental, what it is and where it could be used, and stated it is being considered for use in the future.

**2. Micro-Deval.** MDT explained the proposed process for using the Micro-deval test and then using sulfate soundness when the Micro-deval results fall into a questionable range. Micro-deval is the preferred test and solves two main problems; the repeatability and the turn-around time. MCA is worried about the lack of historical data for pits to indicate which sources are likely to pass the new test.

**3. Boring Information.** All of the information is available from Helena. Some of the older data is not electronic and in many instances dates back 50 years. It may be necessary to mail this information when requested if it is too voluminous to place in the bid package.

**4. Grade S RAP Specification.** MDT stated that volumetrics on RAP is possible with proper handling and processing. MDT will focus on a RAP specification and work towards volumetrics later. We will see more emphasis on using RAP. MCA submitted a couple of names to be on the committee working out the details. Others interested should contact Scott Barnes.

**5. Buy America.** MDT is looking at the 5-day requirement.

*The next meeting will be March 28, 2007, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the MCA Office.*